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SUBJECT Opinions in Manila Regarding the Visit

of CHIANG Kan-shek

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- 1. There are three differing opinions in Manila concerning the Philippine visit of CHIANG Kai-shek.
- It is thought by some persons that President Quirine maneuvered CHIANG's sudden visit to promote for himself the support and financial backing of loyal Nationalist Chinese, among whom are many of the wealthiest families in the Philippines. It was noted that immediately after CHIANG's arrival a majority of the Philippines' wealthiest Chinese Nationalists appeared to greet him, apparently upon the advance invitation of President Quirino.
- 3. A second opinion is that Quirino instigated the visit on the advice of his Foreign Office as a move calculated to impress the United States with Philippine potentialities in Asian affairs. It is believed that the attention focused on the Philippines might possibly influence the U.S. in favor of economic help to the Islands.
- 4. A third view is that Quirino promoted the visit as a political strategem for vote getting by presenting himself as the able pilot of the nation, charting the wisest course over the troubled Pacific waters.

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